

Town of Rowe – FY2013
Board of Selectmen – Minutes
Thursday, August 23, 2012 –2:00pm
Rowe Town Hall

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Abbott at 2:00pm.

Present: Chairman Noel Abbott, Vice Chairman Paul McLatchy III, and Selectman Marilyn Wilson

Depot Street Bridge: DPW Supt. Jim Taylor reported that he had learned at a meeting with MA Highway that they plan to go out to bid on replacement of the Depot Street bridge in June 2013. They plan to replace the bridge with another "Bailey" type bridge, but this time with it will be made with galvanized steel rather than Cor-Ten steel which did not last long at all (17-18 years).

King's Highway and Leshure Road Bridges: DPW Supt. Jim Taylor reported that recent MA Highway reports state that both bridges need repair, but that they are not that serious and there are no weight restrictions at this time. These bridges can be repaired—they will not require full replacement.

School Fire Update: At last week's meeting of the Hawlemont School Committee they declined to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Rowe School Committee to lease space in their facility to house the Rowe Elementary School. The Rowe School Committee meets this afternoon at 5:00pm at the town hall to discuss possible locations for the 2012-2013 school year.

Letter from Hawley Selectboard: A kind letter of condolence for the loss of our school and welcoming into their school community was received from the Hawley Board of Selectmen.

Upcoming State Primary: Town Clerk Jenn Morse requested the use of the Fitness Center for the State Primary on September 6th. There is more room there than in the hearing rooms, and the stage area can be used as an observation area. The Selectmen gave permission to use the Fitness Room. This will mean that Fitness Class will not be able to use the room on that date, or the afternoon/evening before so that room can be set up. Notice will be put in the Goal Post.

Police Department:

- **CJIS/MIRCS:** Experiencing problems trying to get MIRCS/CJIS to work properly. Seems to not work with Windows 7 or Windows XP. An older spare PC has been set up in the Police Office and will be tested with the state software.
- **CVC Paging:** Chief Dandeneau is getting in touch with Shelburne Control Dispatch to have them page officers via a new paging system being provided by CVC (Central VT Communications) Paging.
- **Vacation:** Chief Dandeneau will be on vacation from Aug 26 to Sept 2, and Sept 16-29.

BJ's Membership: Following a lengthy review of use of the town's BJs membership it was found that there was no misuse; however, the Selectboard did vote to discontinue the membership. A draft response addressed to the State Inspector General's office was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Selectboard (3/0/0). The letter will be put on letterhead for signature and mailing.

Jo Sarnelli Invoice: A resident had brought to the Selectboard's attention that Ms. Sarnelli's invoice had indicated (2) guests on several receipts. The receipts in question were reviewed with vendors and it was determined that the charges were appropriate. Ms. Sarnelli did have meals with other guest(s) in attendance, but slips indicated (2) guests at the table so that meals would be served simultaneously. The town was not billed for meals other than those of Ms. Sarnelli. The Selectboard voted unanimously (3/0/0) that Selectman Wilson will draft a letter to Ms. Sarnelli indicating their findings. The letter will be presented at next week's meeting for signature and mailing.

U.S. Flag: John Magnago of Ford Hill Road has volunteered to lower and raise the U.S. flag on the Town Common as needed when so ordered by the President or Governor. A notice will be put in the *Goal Post* asking for a resident to take care of these duties while Mr. Magnago is in Florida for the winter. Selectman McLatchy stated that lowering the flag is not required by state or federal law, but it is considered disrespectful to not do so. The lamp in the floodlight has been out for some time. The Energy Committee is looking at a replacement for the lamp that will be more energy efficient.

Sept. 18th STM Draft Warrant: Draft warrant was presented for review. Ms. Miller will find out if an article is needed to set up the insurance proceeds account.

Harassment Matter: Correspondence was received from John Magnago of Ford Hill Road outlining difficulties he has been experiencing. Mr. Magnago, who was present, was asked if he would like to publicly discuss the matter this evening. He responded he did not at this time. There was discussion that perhaps this matter should be discussed in executive session; however, Selectman McLatchy stated that he did not feel this matter was executive session material. Chairman Abbott and Selectman Wilson will discuss the matter with the Police Department and obtain police reports for review at next week's meeting on August 28th.

State Primary Warrant: The Selectboard unanimously (3/0/0) approved and signed the warrant for the State Primary on September 6th.

National Flood Insurance Program: Correspondence was received from FRCOG offering their assistance to the town to join the National Flood Insurance Program administered by FEMA. Two zoning bylaws need to be adopted in order to join the program. FRCOG's correspondence will be forwarded to the Planning Board asking that they contact FRCOG to obtain their assistance so that the required bylaws get brought to townspeople along with the proposed zoning bylaws currently being worked on by the Planning Board.

Energy Committee: Paul McLatchy III recently resigned from the Energy Committee. Also, Dana Williams has not accepted her appointment this year. The Selectboard voted unanimously (3/0/0) to reduce the size of the committee from five to three members. Current members: Jack Packard, Abby Phelps and Robin Booth.

COA FY2013 Grant: The Selectboard voted unanimously (3/0/0) to authorize the Chairman to sign the FY2013 Council on Aging grant contract in the amount of \$3,500.

Electrical Permit Fee: Resident Wayne Zavotka has requested that the \$150 electrical permit fee he was required to pay be refunded to him as his electrician had faxed the wiring permit application to FCCIP on May 1, 2012—well before the July 1st cut-off date. The Selectboard agreed that the fee should be refunded and instructed Ms. Miller to contact FCCIP to request the fee be refunded to Mr. Zavotka.

Newell Presentation: It was discussed and decided that it was not necessary for David Newell to give a formal presentation to the town concerning his reports and findings concerning the regional agreement with the Mohawk towns and the Three District Agreement, but the reports will be placed on the town website. Chairman Abbott will provide electronic copies of these reports to Ms. Miller.

Rep. Paul Mark: Chairman Abbott reported that Rep. Paul Mark will hold office hours twice per year at the town hall. The first occasion will be on Tuesday, September 18th from 4-6pm.

Meeting Minutes: Deferred to next week's meeting.

Executive Session: By roll call vote at 3:43pm the Selectboard voted unanimously as follows to go into executive session to approve the minutes of the Wednesday, October 15th executive session, to reconvene in open session, and to declare the minutes of the executive session to approve these minutes open to the public: Chairman Abbott–aye, Selectman McLatchy–aye, and Selectman Wilson–aye. Ms. Miller was invited to attend the executive session.

Reconvene in Open Session: At 3:45pm the Selectboard reconvened in open session.

Adjournment: The Selectboard voted unanimously (3/0/0) to adjourn their meeting at 3:46pm.

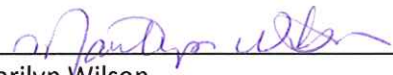
Respectfully submitted,

Ellen B. Miller
Town Coordinator

Approved:


Noel R. Abbott, Chairman


Paul McLatchy III


Marilyn Wilson

Sept 25, 2012
Date Approved

Attachments:

- Agenda
- Hawley BOS letter of condolence
- State Primary Warrant
- Response to Inspector General's Office re BJ's Membership
- FRCOG Letter re National Flood Insurance Program
- COA FY2013 Grant Contract
- Sept 18th STM Draft Warrant
- Correspondence from John Magnago re Harassment